GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
EXTERNAL AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1627
ANSWERED ON:28.11.2001
INDIA`S STAND ON PILE OF NUCLEAR WEAPONS
LAKSHMAN CHANDRA SETH

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have spelt out their policy on the Nuclear Weapons accumulated by the big powers down the years;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the extent to which the same has been found helpful in reducing the accumulated stock?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI JASWANT SINGH)

(a) & (b) Since independence India has been a strong proponent of global nuclear disarmament and has taken numerous initiatives towards this objective. India attaches the highest priority to nuclear disarmament. To this end, government have always supported urgent commencement of multilateral negotiations aimed at elimination of nuclear weapons within a time bound phased programme.

(c) The United States of America and Russian Federation have effected negotiated reductions of their nuclear weapons over the years through well known agreements such as START-I and START-II.There are reports indicating that the two countries would undertake further cuts in their nuclear weapons.